

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-2202

Wright House

2004 Ruxton Road

Baltimore, Baltimore County

Ca. 1904

Private

The Wright House is located on Ruxton Road near Rockland in the Ninth District of Baltimore County. Constructed circa 1904, the William Wright Company was noted as the owner of the property in the 1915 Bromley Atlas of Baltimore County. At that time, the William Wright Company and William Fell Johnson owned large tracts of nearby land. The Rockland community was originally settled by the Johnson family, who constructed a grist mill in the early 19th century and a number of stone dwellings to house the mill workers. Although the community's economic activity began with the grist mill, it was supplanted by the Rockland Bleach and Dye Works, which were established in 1831. Brothers James, Thomas, and Robert Wright founded the Rockland Bleach and Dye Works. Their bleaching formula, which included cornstarch, castor oil, chlorine, votriol, and pulverized talc, brought great financial success to the company. The Rockland Bleach & Dye Works remains one of the oldest corporations in Baltimore County having been in business for the past 170 years. Rockland has become the world's largest manufacturer of drapery liners. Its success is based largely on the patented fabric Roc-lon®.

Constructed circa 1904, the Wright House is set back from Ruxton Road on a sloping lot. The wood frame Queen Anne-style house is set on a random rubble stone foundation and is clad in vinyl German siding. Rising two-and-a-half stories, the dwelling presents a three-bay wide façade or south elevation. The off-center entry consists of a single-leaf, panel-and-light wood door with fluted pilasters and a molded entablature. To the east of the entry are two 2/2 windows with vinyl sills and surrounds. The fenestration on the first story is set beneath a one-story, three-bay wide porch with a half-hipped roof and replacement metal post supports. To the west of the entry is a circa 1930, one-story wing with a gable roof and an exterior end brick chimney with stretcher bond construction and shoulders. The second story of the main block features four 2/2 windows and one 1/1 window. A hipped dormer rises above the roof slope and contains a 2/2 window, and a 6/6 window pierces the gable end. A cross gable roof with asphalt shingles and a central interior brick chimney cap the dwelling. On the rear of the house, there is a circa 1970 addition with a half-hipped roof. One-story in height, this addition measures approximately 16 feet by 16 feet. Like the main block, it is clad in vinyl German siding. The property is further improved by a circa 1910 garage, a frog pond, tennis courts, a swimming pool, and two non-historic sheds.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2202

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Wright House

other

2. Location

street and number 2004 Ruxton Road not for publication

city, town Baltimore vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Louis B. and Carol H. Pieper

street and number 2004 Ruxton Road telephone Not Available

city, town Baltimore state MD zip code 21204-3512

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 1592 folio 263

city, town Towson tax map 69 tax parcel 688 tax ID number 0916450130

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Contributing <u>2</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	Noncontributing <u>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u>1</u> sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>2</u> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<u>3</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<u>4</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			<u>1</u>

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2202

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1904, the Wright House is set back from Ruxton Road on a sloping lot. The wood frame Queen Anne-style house is set on a random rubble stone foundation and is clad in vinyl German siding. Rising two-and-a-half stories, the dwelling presents a three-bay wide façade or south elevation. The off-center entry consists of a single-leaf, panel-and-light wood door with fluted pilasters and a molded entablature. To the east of the entry are two 2/2 windows with vinyl sills and surrounds. The fenestration on the first story is set beneath a one-story, three-bay wide porch with a half-hipped roof and replacement metal post supports. To the west of the entry is a circa 1930, one-story wing with a gable roof and an exterior end brick chimney with stretcher bond construction and shoulders. The second story of the main block features four 2/2 windows and one 1/1 window. A hipped dormer rises above the roof slope and contains a 2/2 window, and a 6/6 window pierces the gable end. A cross gable roof with asphalt shingles and a central interior brick chimney cap the dwelling. On the rear of the house, there is a circa 1970 addition with a half-hipped roof. One-story in height, this addition measures approximately 16 feet by 16 feet. Like the main block, it is clad in vinyl German siding.

The property is further improved by a circa 1910 garage, a frog pond, tennis courts, a swimming pool, and two non-historic sheds. The garage is set on a random rubble stone foundation and is clad in board-and-batten siding. The side gable roof is clad in both asphalt shingles and corrugated metal. One door has been removed and the other opening holds double-leaf vertical board doors. A stone wall surrounds the small frog pond.

Set at the top of a hill is the tennis court. Laid with a concrete base, the court is surrounded by a metal fence. The in-ground swimming pool is rectangular with a brick deck. A stone wall and a hedge surround it. There are two sheds from the last half of the 20th century. One is set on a concrete block pier foundation and features German siding and a front gable roof with asphalt shingles. The other shed is set on a brick foundation and features pressed board cladding, a gambrel roof, and a single-leaf flush plywood door.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2202

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1904 ca. **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1904 ca., 1930 ca., 1970 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Wright House is located on Ruxton Road near Rockland in the Ninth District of Baltimore County. Constructed circa 1904, the William Wright Company was noted as the owner of the property in the 1915 Bromley Atlas of Baltimore County. At that time, the William Wright Company and William Fell Johnson owned large tracts of nearby land. The Rockland community was originally settled by the Johnson family, who constructed a grist mill in the early 19th century and a number of stone dwellings to house the mill workers.¹ Although the community's economic activity began with the grist mill, it was supplanted by the Rockland Bleach and Dye Works, which were established in 1831. Brothers James, Thomas, and Robert Wright founded the Rockland Bleach and Dye Works. Their bleaching formula, which included cornstarch, castor oil, chlorine, votriol, and pulverized talc, brought great financial success to the company.² The Rockland Bleach & Dye Works remains one of the oldest corporations in Baltimore County having been in business for the past 170 years. Rockland has become the world's largest manufacturer of drapery liners. Its success is based largely on the patented fabric Roc-Ion®.³

¹ "History of the Area." Located on the Internet on May 22, 2001 at <http://www.bcpl.net/~ruxrider/area-history.html>.

² Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County*, (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, 1978), p. 195.

³ "News Makers." Located on the Internet on May 22, 2001 at <http://www.dwcdesignet.com/DWC/Jan'00/newsmk.html>.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2202

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County*. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men*. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 2.25 Acres
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Cockeysville Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Wright House is located at 2004 Ruxton Road near Rockland in the Ninth District of Baltimore County. It has been associated with Tax Map 69, Parcel 688 since its construction circa 1904.

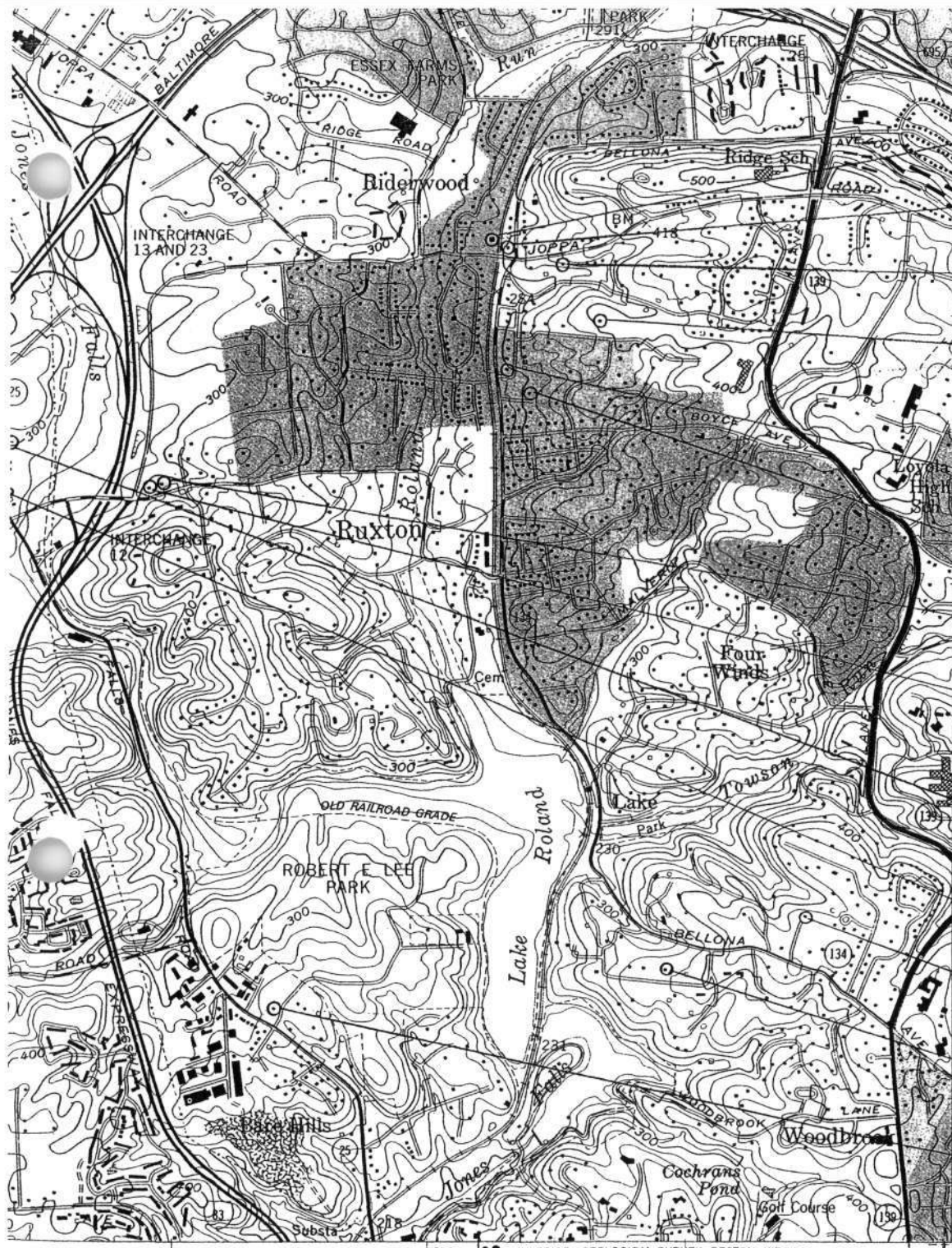
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	R. Weidlich, A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 21, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



- EA-2141
1006 WEST JOPPA ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2359
1000 WEST JOPPA ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2425
1517 WEST JOPPA ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- EA-1775
1400 WAWUT HILL LANE
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2202
2004 RUXTON ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2203
2008 RUXTON ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2042
- BA-2372
10113 FALLS ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY

40' 358 359000m E 76°37'30" 39°22'30"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Heavy-duty | Light-duty |
| Medium-duty | Unimproved dirt |
| Interstate Route | U. S. Route |
| | State Route |



COCKEYSVILLE, MD.
39076-D6-TF-024

1957
PHOTOREVISED 1986
DMA 5662 I NW-SERIES V833

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled by the Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1983 and other sources. This information not field checked Map edited 1986

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



BA-2202

WRIGHT HOUSE

2004 RUXTON ROAD

BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

APRIL 2001

MD SHPO

SOUTHWEST CORNER

1 OF 2



BA-2202
WRIGHT HOUSE
2004 RUXTON ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
APRIL 2001
MD SHPO
GARAGE
2 OF 2

BA. 2202

JOHNSON WRIGHT HOUSE - c. 1904 - 2004 Ruxton Road, Rockland vicinity. Shown in 1915 Bromley atlas as home of Johnson Pearse Wright. His obituary in 1945 noted that he had been president of nearby Rockland Bleach and Dye Works for 25 years, a member of the founding family. Frame and clapboard (or German siding) house with gable roof. Wright had acquired the land from the textile company in 1904. House is painted grey in 1983.